

PRIMARY ELECTION BILL

PRIMARY ELECTION BILL WAS UP IN THE HOUSE

LEGISLATURE HARD AT WORK

Important Measures Being Considered by Both Branches of Our Lawmakers

Tallahassee, April 19.—The fight in the legislature was over the Watson primary election bill, which was taken up at 11 o'clock, the clerk had only about half of its thirty-two sections when the hour of adjournment, one, arrived and caused its postponement until tomorrow. But until after two, spirited debates, of them lasting an hour, and both carrying the bill as reported by the committee, of which its author is chairman, the committee on privileges and elections, practically in-

st. The first amendment to the bill was proposed by Mr. Knight, of Columbia. He moved to strike out the poll qualification for voting in primary elections. Mr. Knight made a speech in favor of his amendment, saying that this state is possessed of these classes of voters, the honest class, the purchasable class, and the different class, who will vote whichever way they are desired by the men who will pay their poll taxes. He thought this corrupting to politics, and answering objections that it would deprive the school fund of a large revenue, asked how many of the members of the house wanted their children educated out of a fund that was virtually used to corrupt the voters of the state? But Mr. Watson made a speech in favor of the bill as reported, Judge Griggs, of Franklin, did not believe there was so much corruption from this source, and Mr. Brown, of Escambia, also held similar views. The motion received support from any quarter, and was laid on the table by practically a unanimous vote.

The next amendment was offered by Mr. Reese, and that was to strike out the clause authorizing election inspectors to assist in the preparation of their ballots those who do not read well enough to mark their own ballots, and this brought an hour's debate. It was contended by Mr. Reese, who led the fight, that it was not dishonest because he is a great good to the state, the greatest good to the state number could best be substituted by retaining an educational qualification, and keeping sacred the secrecy of the ballot, the objectionable clause providing that "one or more of the inspectors might prepare the ballot for the elector under the circumstances named, while the amendment was vigorously opposed by Mr. Watson, Mr. Griggs, Mr. Richardson, of Wakulla, Mr. Knight of Columbia, Mr. DuPont of St. Johns, and others; Mr. Faulkner, of Taylor, saying in plain language that public sentiment is the most powerful law in the state, and that in the communities where the people would feel they were outraged by its provisions, the amendment if enacted into law would be violated habitually. Mr. Farris said it would not be a real violation of the law to "fudge" upon it a little in the rural communities where it would work a hardship upon good citizens who had the misfortune not to be able to read; it was intended to prevent corruption in the large cities where there is a large purchasable vote, and where, in order to show that they had "delivered the goods," corrupt voters would take advantage of the law to have the inspectors prepare their ballots, and these dwell especially upon the

IF HE HAD A MILLION DOLLARS.



—Berryman in Washington Star.

STORM IN JACKSONVILLE

GREAT DAMAGE TO PROPERTY IS REPORTED IN THE CITY

CAPTAIN SLOAN DROWNED

Negro Killed by Live Wire—Windows Were Demolished—Buildings Unroofed—Hail and Wind Storm

Jacksonville, Fla., April 19.—With a rush and a roar a hail and wind storm of unusual severity struck Jacksonville about 3:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and for fifteen minutes raged with an intensity that had never before been witnessed by the oldest inhabitant and completely outdid all records of the local weather bureau.

While the heavy clouds in the west and southwest gave due warnings for more than a half hour previous to the bursting of the storm that something unusual might be looked for, no one was prepared for what followed.

When the storm broke over the city it began with a pattering of rain which in a minute or two turned into hail and in a half a minute more hail stones were coming down in torrents, or to be more correct, in volleys.

A terrific gale of wind accompanied the hail and added to the damage that was being wrought in all parts of the city. Window panes were cracked by the hail stones and when broken blown in by the force of the wind. Skylights were blown off or broken by the hail and buildings were flooded.

People on the streets made wild dashes for shelter and for ten minutes or more, during the worst of the storm, the streets were deserted, by human beings, except those wildly chasing after frightened and maddened animals that were running in every direction to escape the fury of the storm.

Captain Drowned.

While the severe storm of yesterday afternoon was at its height, the little river tug Annie B., while trying to make a landing off Commodore's Point, just below Cashen's mill, sank

and her master, Capt. Monroe G. Sloan, was drowned.

There were two men on the tug with Capt. Sloan, who managed to get one of the boats loose and save themselves from a watery grave.

One member of the crew, an aged man, rowed his boat up to the Merrill-Stevens plant shortly after the storm and reported the loss of the tug with her master.

This man, whose name could not be learned, was bleeding from several wounds on the head, caused by being struck by many large hail stones.

Negro Killed.

Ben Wilder, a negro laborer, who resides in Brooklyn, was instantly killed about 7:30 o'clock last night, at the corner of Stonewall and Winter streets, by walking into a live wire, and Mrs. Batey and Mrs. Pope, who reside in that neighborhood, were badly shocked by the same wire.

Boat Turned Over.

A white boat, about thirty feet long, apparently a naphtha launch, was sighted on the shore, opposite the Standard Oil Company's pier, Riverside, late yesterday afternoon.

The boat was turned over and was apparently in good shape. Whether or not anyone was drowned from this craft is not known but something will probably be heard from her today.

The Official Statement.

The hail-storm was purely local in character, and although very severe in the immediate vicinity of the city, probably did not extend over a great territory.

Reports are not available at the present time to show just how far-reaching its influence was, but storms of this kind seldom cover an extended area.

No Hope of Release for Harry Thaw.

Pittsburg, April 18.—Mrs. William Thaw, mother of Harry K. Thaw, accompanied by her daughter, the Countess of Yarmouth, and Josiah C. Thaw, a half-brother of the prisoner, arrived here tonight from New York. The Thaws left the train at the East Liberty station of the Pennsylvania Railroad and were immediately driven to Lyndhurst, the family home. It was learned that Mrs. Thaw has given up hope of having her son released from jail on bail pending a new trial.

C. R. Jordan, of Dowling Park, is in the city today.

HEAVY NEBRASKA SNOW

EASTERN NEBRASKA IS VISITED BY A SWEEPING STORM

THE FALL WAS FIVE INCHES

Reports From Sections of the State Are General as to Damage to Wheat and Fruit Crops

Omaha, Neb., April 18.—Five inches of snow fell during last night and continued today. The fall was general over eastern Nebraska and is the heaviest known for April for many years.

The snow fall extends over the wide area, according to advices from points in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Colorado to the south which report a light snow fall, while northern Nebraska, southern South Dakota, northeast Wyoming and the Black Hills are covered with a blanket of snow six inches deep on the level, which is still falling. At Northwestern railroad headquarters here it was said that the storm is practically the same over the entire system west of the Missouri river.

Opinion as to the effect on fruit and early vegetables varies. Along the southern and central belts, cherries, peaches, plums and berries are said by some to have been ruined almost entirely while other growers and dealers report that fruit was not far enough advanced to be seriously endangered. The winter wheat crop is threatened with damage.

TWO CENTS A MILE.

Was But One Dissenting Vote in the Assembly.

Albany, N. Y., April 18.—The Assembly passed today with but one dissenting vote the bill providing for a flat rate of 2 cents a mile on all railroads in the state.

Sheriff Rickerson and family returned from Steinhatchee last night, where they have been camping for the past ten days, and enjoying a splendid outing. The health of the entire family has been greatly improved.

MRS. McLEAN HAS WON

DESPITE EFFORTS OF INSURGENTS SHE WAS DECLARED THE WINNER

RESULT NOT YET PUBLIC

Daughters of Revolution Held Lively Election—Some Shrewd Manipulations Did Fine Work

Washington, April 18.—While the vote of the continental congress for national officers of the Daughters of the American Revolution will not be announced until tomorrow morning, it is freely admitted by both factions tonight that Mrs. Donald McLean has been re-elected as president general of the society. Mrs. McLean's supporters claim that the entire administration ticket will be elected by an overwhelming majority.

The vote received by Mrs. Elizabeth Eleanor Howard, of Alexandria, Va., who was nominated by the "insurgent" faction, her friends declare, will make her the logical candidate to succeed Mrs. McLean at the next session of the congress.

At 11 o'clock tonight the tellers, who are canvassing the vote, announced that their work would not be complete for several hours. The official report, they declared, would not be made public until submitted to the congress tomorrow. Only two candidates were put in nomination for president general, Mrs. Donald McLean, the present incumbent, and Mrs. Elizabeth Eleanor Howard, of Alexandria, Va. Mrs. McLean was placed in nomination by Mrs. A. A. Kendall, of Maine, and Mrs. Charles Terry, of New York, speaking on behalf of the majority of the delegates from that state, seconded the nomination.

The surprise of the occasion, and which indicated that Mrs. McLean did not have the unanimous support of her own state delegation, was the nomination by Mrs. Little, of Rochester, N. Y., of Mrs. Howard for the presidency general, and the seconding of it by Mrs. J. Herron Crossman, also of New York. After the balloting began, Mrs. McLean, the president general, said that she had been informed that many of the delegates had filled out their ballots before coming to the hall. She declared that she was astonished upon hearing the statement, and that she would appoint a committee to find out if possible how the ballots came into the possession of the delegates. New ballots were distributed, and the balloting proceeded.

LEGISLATURE DOINGS.

Tampa Fair Bill Introduced—Child Labor Bill Doomed and Stetson University Bill Introduced.

Tallahassee, April 19.—2:30 p. m. —Senator Crane, of Hillsborough county, introduced today the Tampa State Fair bill, appropriating thirty thousand dollars for the fair. There will be a hard fight on this bill.

Senator Crane has also introduced a bill amending the charter of the Stetson University at DeLand. This bill is along the line of the resolutions adopted by the Florida Baptist convention at Live Oak in January last, and provides for nomination of persons as successors to each member on the present board of trustees. The intention of the bill is to place the university under control of the Baptist convention of Florida.

The Child Labor bill was practically killed today by numerous amendments.

A new apportionment bill has been introduced by Senator West, of the first district.

The senate and house have both adjourned until Monday afternoon, 3:30.

In the senate, it took several roll calls, so great was the excitement over pending measures before vote on adjournment could be announced.

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